D.C. APPROPRIATIONS BILL NOT PERFECT

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, last night's happy passage of the D.C. appropriation was marred for me and many who had helped me by the omission of relief for Haitians from an attachment to my appropriation.

□ 1030

Frankly, it looked awful. Whatever the intent, we are left with black immigrants out and other similarly situated immigrants in.

I am prepared to believe that discrimination was not intended if we quickly make good on the promise to correct this exclusion. The administration promises to use its prosecutorial authority to keep Haitians from being deported while Congress is out.

What will we do when Congress comes back? The very first week we must make good on the promise that emerged from the immigration negotiations. The leadership should come from the Hispanic caucus, where relief was most keenly felt, and from the Black caucus. But the burden is on this entire body. Discrimination or the appearance of discrimination has no place in a great legislative body. Early action to obtain equal treatment for Haitian immigrants is the way to show it.

TIME TO FOLLOW EXISTING CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAWS

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, it is time for a little history lesson. This lesson is both for my liberal friends on the other side of the aisle, as well as for my unbiased, fair-minded friends in the media who are so enamored of campaign finance reform.

Every single day I see a story on the news about how we need campaign finance reform, an almost identical tale to that which is heard in this very body from the other side of the aisle.

It is obvious that our supporters of reform forget that all of the scandals of political corruption in 1974 resulted in precisely the campaign reforms that exist today, the same laws that these same reformers now want to change.

My guess is that the main problem is not that the law needs to be changed, but that we need to follow the law. Now, there is a radical idea. Imagine if the other side actually followed the law, abided by the contribution limits, and disclosed their fund-raising practices instead of having to give back millions of dollars after they have won the election.

But liberals never learn from history, and the very same reforms of today will be replaced by equally useless reforms in the face of lawbreakers tomorrow.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

(Mr. BALDACCI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Speaker, while we have had many accomplishments on health care, on education, on small business and individual tax credits, we still have one of our accomplishments yet to come and that is with campaign finance reform.

In the last Congress we had 32 Members who signed a discharge petition that would have forced the issue to be addressed on the House floor. In this Congress, we are making progress. There are 187 Members that have signed this discharge petition. This is very important if we are going to regain the trust of the American people in their political process. It has to be done for the public interest and not special private interest.

Also, in Maine we began the Maine Code of Ethics. The code of ethics was signed by candidates of both parties running for office to adhere to principles that they would be discussing the issues, to be engaging the public and not to be turning the public off.

While we are reforming the process with campaign finance reform, we must also remember the product of those campaigns and also reform the product. So along with the process, we have product.

SWIFT PUNISHMENT FOR TERRORISTS IN PAKISTAN

(Mr. BRADY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BRADY. Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues know, a terrible tragedy occurred on Tuesday in Karachi, Pakistan. A car containing four Americans from Houston, TX, and their driver was ambushed. Reportedly, a car came up from behind the vehicle in which the employees of Union Texas Petroleum were riding, fired upon the car and forced it off the road. At that point the gummen calmly fired more than a dozen bullets through the car's windshield, killing everyone instantaneously.

This terrorist attack is an absolute outrage, and while the investigation has just begun, it is widely believed that this is in response to Monday's conviction here in America of the Mir Aimal Kasi in United States court for the 1993 shooting of two of our CIA agents in Virginia. America's justice in no way should justify this behavior in Pakistan, and unfortunately this is not the first terrorist attack on Americans in that country.

Our thoughts and our prayers go to the families of this attack. They were good people who did not deserve to die, and they will be sorely missed. Mr. Speaker, the greatest tribute America can pay them is to find and punish those who were responsible for this attack, and do the greatest we can do to protect the lives of other innocent Americans abroad.

MAKING 1998 THE YEAR OF THE CHILD

(Mr. McGOVERN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, today Congress is scheduled to adjourn for 1997. It is a good day to assess what we have done this year for American children and what issues we need to pursue more vigorously next year.

This year, Democrats succeeded in forcing the Republican majority to provide \$24 billion in health care for uninsured children. We fought to protect public education from the majority's radical voucher experiments and antieducation block grants. My colleagues, the gentlewoman from Connecticut DELAURO], the gentleman from Ms. Maryland [Mr. HOYER], the gentlewoman from Maryland [Mrs. MORELLA] and I succeeded in crafting legislation that gives our children the support they need during their first 3 years of life to grow up healthy and develop to their fullest potential.

But there is so much more that needs to be done. I have urged the President to make early childhood development issues the centerpiece of his State of the Union address next year. I urge my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to join Representatives DELAURO, HOYER, MORELLA and me in sending the President legislation early next year that gives our kids access to affordable, high-quality child care and early education programs. Let us agree today to make 1998 "The Year of the Child."

COFFEE MAY CAUSE CURIOUS BEHAVIOR

(Mr. GUTKNECHT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, a lot of our friends on the left today and in the past several weeks have been talking about campaign finance reform. I wonder if any of them sees the great irony in the administration's sense of curiosity.

On the one hand, White House political operatives seem to have such an extraordinarily developed sense of curiosity that they miraculously ended up with 900 confidential FBI files on their political enemies. But on the other hand, the White House seems to have little curiosity about the possibility that John Huang might have seriously compromised national security while working for the Commerce Department in his capacity, apparently, as foreign fundraiser-in-chief.

What is even more remarkable that every single Democratic Senator, with